



**Address:**  
PO Box 7871  
Madison, WI 53707-7871  
[www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov](http://www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov)

**Dawn Marie Sass**  
**State Treasurer of Wisconsin**

**Office of the State Treasurer**  
Phone: 608/267-7977  
Fax: 608/266-2647  
E-Mail: [unclaim@ost.state.wi.us](mailto:unclaim@ost.state.wi.us)

Tuesday, February 17, 2009  
Contact: Eva Robelia, Office of the State Treasurer, 608-261-2159

**Grant County Student Receives \$2500 EdVest  
Grand Prize for her Winning Essay**  
*Youth from Brown, Douglas, Milwaukee, Racine,  
Rock and Winnebago counties also awarded*

On Monday, Treasurer Dawn Marie Sass and First Lady Jessica Doyle surprised Lydia Stindt from Grant County with the grand prize \$2500 EdVest college scholarship fund for winning the 2008 EdVest statewide essay contest. Nearly 800 students in fourth through sixth grade participated in the essay contest and wrote about why they want to continue their education beyond high school.

“It is exciting to have so many young children participate in the contest and share their dreams as to why they want to continue their education beyond high school,” said Treasurer Sass. “It is never too early, or too late, to start thinking about college and to start saving for your future education.”

The grand prize winner along with the seven top placing essay writers read their story aloud at a reception held at the Governor’s Executive Residence. The following top seven essays winners also received a \$1000 EdVest account:

- Zimri Fuentes Franco – Brown County
- Alexis Snider – Douglas County
- Evan Johnson – Milwaukee County
- Tyler Vincent – Milwaukee County
- John Morelan – Racine County
- Mekhi Cooks – Rock County
- Alexa Smith – Winnebago County

The EdVest essay contest was launched on Higher Education Day, created by the Treasurer’s Office three years ago in order to focus attention on the importance of higher education, and to highlight the many excellent resources already available in our state for students, parents and teachers. Teachers used the curriculum to create a teachable moment to talk about the importance of an education, especially in today’s financial world.

“Sending a child to college is one of the most important contributions we can make as a parent,” said Treasurer Sass. “Through EdVest, parents can help make this dream a reality.”

To see a picture of the winners and to read the winning essays, visit [www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov](http://www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov).

--END--